

Message

---

**From:** Daguillard, Robert [Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** 1/29/2023 8:14:33 PM  
**To:** John McCracken [jmccracken@grist.org]; Lippert, Allison [lippert.allison@epa.gov]  
**CC:** EPA Press Office [Press@epa.gov]  
**Subject:** RE: PRESS: PFAS Pollution in Marinette/Peshtigo, Wisconsin

Good afternoon John,

With sincere apologies for the delayed response and for attribution to U.S. EPA, please:

Harmful per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are an urgent public health and environmental issue facing communities across the United States. In October 2021, EPA released its PFAS Strategic Roadmap, which highlights concrete actions the Agency will take across a range of environmental media and EPA program offices to protect people and the environment from PFAS contamination. The Roadmap included target dates to achieve each milestone and is guided by three primary goals:

**Research.** Investing in research, development, and innovation to increase the understanding of PFAS exposures and toxicities, human health and ecological effects, and effective interventions that incorporate the best-available science;

**Restrict.** Pursuing a comprehensive approach to proactively prevent PFAS from entering air, land, and water at levels that can adversely impact human health and the environment; and

**Remediate.** Broadening and accelerating the cleanup of PFAS contamination to protect human health and ecological systems.

In November 2022, EPA released a one-year progress report on its work under the PFAS Roadmap, which both summarizes the critical actions the Agency has taken over the past year to advance progress toward these goals, and highlighting milestones that EPA will achieve in the near future. More information on EPA's PFAS efforts is available at [www.epa.gov/pfas](https://www.epa.gov/pfas).

On March 18, 2022, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency received a request to conduct a Preliminary Assessment (PA) on two properties in Marinette, Wisconsin (JCI/Tyco Fire Center Property located at 2700 Industrial Parkway South and the JCI/Tyco Stanton Property). The request indicated that there is a threat to human health and the environment from the release of PFAS to groundwater and surface water resulting from over five decades of uncontrolled testing with Aqueous Film Forming Foam firefighting foam. EPA conducted the requested PA as described in the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan at 40 C.F.R. 300.420, to determine whether the release may be eligible for a CERCLA action. EPA anticipates responding to the petitioners in March 2023 with the PA results, which will determine if the site is eligible for the next step in the Superfund evaluation process.

More information about the Superfund site assessment process can be found on [EPA's website](https://www.epa.gov/superfund).

---

**From:** John McCracken <jmccracken@grist.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 27, 2023 1:29 PM  
**To:** Lippert, Allison <lippert.allison@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Daguillard, Robert <Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: PRESS: PFAS Pollution in Marinette/Peshtigo, Wisconsin

Hello,

Can I expect a response to these today?

On Thu, Jan 26, 2023 at 7:56 AM Lippert, Allison <[lippert.allison@epa.gov](mailto:lippert.allison@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hi John, I have also checked with our headquarters press office and unfortunately we will not have anyone available for an interview this week. I hope to have our written responses to your questions shortly.

---

**From:** John McCracken <[jmccracken@grist.org](mailto:jmccracken@grist.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 25, 2023 9:03 AM  
**To:** Lippert, Allison <[lippert.allison@epa.gov](mailto:lippert.allison@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: PRESS: PFAS Pollution in Marinette/Peshtigo, Wisconsin

Good morning,

If possible, Thursday would still be best.

My questions are similar to those above. I'm really trying to get a grasp on where and when the federal government responds to PFAS pollution.

The community of Peshtigo, Wisconsin has been dealing with the problem in their groundwater/drinking water for years and haven't been able to find a solution, so I want to know if/when the federal agency steps in.

On Wed, Jan 25, 2023, 7:18 AM Lippert, Allison <[lippert.allison@epa.gov](mailto:lippert.allison@epa.gov)> wrote:

Good morning, John,

Are you able to share any questions? And would your deadline for interview still be tomorrow?

Thanks,

Allison Lippert

Press Officer

U.S. EPA Region 5

[Lippert.Allison@epa.gov](mailto:Lippert.Allison@epa.gov)

312-353-0967

---

**From:** John McCracken <[jmccracken@grist.org](mailto:jmccracken@grist.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 24, 2023 2:25 PM  
**To:** Lippert, Allison <[lippert.allison@epa.gov](mailto:lippert.allison@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: PRESS: PFAS Pollution in Marinette/Peshtigo, Wisconsin

Allison, would it be possible for me to get an interview with someone at the EPA to talk about the federal PFAS response?

Thanks,

John

On Mon, Jan 23, 2023 at 9:38 AM John McCracken <[jmccracken@grist.org](mailto:jmccracken@grist.org)> wrote:

Thursday is fine. Thank you

On Mon, Jan 23, 2023 at 9:21 AM Lippert, Allison <[lippert.allison@epa.gov](mailto:lippert.allison@epa.gov)> wrote:

Since this involves more than one program, can we get an extension? Thursday?

---

**From:** Lippert, Allison  
**Sent:** Monday, January 23, 2023 9:55 AM  
**To:** John McCracken <[jmccracken@grist.org](mailto:jmccracken@grist.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: PRESS: PFAS Pollution in Marinette/Peshtigo, Wisconsin

Hi John, I'll see what I can do

---

**From:** John McCracken <[jmccracken@grist.org](mailto:jmccracken@grist.org)>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 23, 2023 9:52 AM  
**To:** Lippert, Allison <[lippert.allison@epa.gov](mailto:lippert.allison@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: PRESS: PFAS Pollution in Marinette/Peshtigo, Wisconsin

Hello Allison, apologies for the miscommunication, but I meant a deadline of 1/27.

I am now being asked for an update from my editors team **by tomorrow**. Would someone be able to answer these questions today for me?

Thank you for your time and I do apologize for this.

On Thu, Jan 19, 2023 at 12:48 PM John McCracken <[jmccracken@grist.org](mailto:jmccracken@grist.org)> wrote:

Thank you Allison, here are my questions below. My deadline has changed and I need a response by 2/27.

What is the EPA's decision for declaring the polluted area of Peshtigo/Marinette, Wisconsin a superfund site due to its PFAS contamination?

What is the EPA's guidance for PFAS cleanup for local governments/towns? Does the EPA get involved in cleanup methods or provide guidance to affected citizens?

Why should residents be aware of PFAS in their groundwater, like those in Peshtigo?

What is being done to stop and/or cleanup PFAS pollution in groundwater at the national level?

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

John

On Thu, Jan 19, 2023 at 11:28 AM Lippert, Allison <[lippert.allison@epa.gov](mailto:lippert.allison@epa.gov)> wrote:

Hi John,

Your inquiry was forwarded to me by our DC press office and I'm looking into it. Are you able to provide written questions? That will help me identify the right experts since this involves more than one program. Please also let me know your deadline.

Thank you,

Allison Lippert

Press Officer

U.S. EPA Region 5

[Lippert.Allison@epa.gov](mailto:Lippert.Allison@epa.gov)

312-353-0967

---

**From:** John McCracken <[jmccracken@grist.org](mailto:jmccracken@grist.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 19, 2023 10:06 AM  
**To:** EPA Press Office <[Press@epa.gov](mailto:Press@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: PRESS: PFAS Pollution in Marinette/Peshtigo, Wisconsin

Hello,

I am following to on this request. Can you confirm a response?

Thank you,

John

On Thu, Jan 12, 2023, 9:36 AM John McCracken <[jmccracken@grist.org](mailto:jmccracken@grist.org)> wrote:

Hello,

My name is John McCracken and I'm a Midwest reporting fellow with [Grist.org](https://grist.org), a national nonprofit climate focused newsroom.

I am reaching out to speak to someone at the EPA about PFAS pollution in Marinette/Peshtigo, Wisconsin.

I believe that residents in the region submitted a petition to have a polluted plume declared a superfund site by the EPA.

I am hoping someone can answer my questions about this process, when the determination will be made, and what the EPA's response to state and local PFAS water pollution is.

Thank you for your time. I am able to meet via phone, video, or written questions if needed. I would appreciate a response by 1/17.

Sincerely,

John

--

John McCracken

(he/him)

Midwest Reporting Fellow - [Grist.org](http://Grist.org)

e: [jmccracken@grist.org](mailto:jmccracken@grist.org)

c: 608-558-9696, I am in **Central Standard Time (CST)**

--

John McCracken

(he/him)

Midwest Reporting Fellow - [Grist.org](http://Grist.org)

e: [jmccracken@grist.org](mailto:jmccracken@grist.org)

**Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)** am in **Central Standard Time (CST)**

--

John McCracken

(he/him)

Midwest Reporting Fellow - [Grist.org](http://Grist.org)

e: [jmccracken@grist.org](mailto:jmccracken@grist.org)

c: 608-558-9696, I am in **Central Standard Time (CST)**

--

John McCracken

(he/him)

Midwest Reporting Fellow - [Grist.org](http://Grist.org)

e: [jmccracken@grist.org](mailto:jmccracken@grist.org)

c: 608-558-9696, I am in **Central Standard Time (CST)**

--

John McCracken

(he/him)

Midwest Reporting Fellow - [Grist.org](http://Grist.org)

e: [jmccracken@grist.org](mailto:jmccracken@grist.org)

c: 608-558-9696, I am in **Central Standard Time (CST)**